

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Original) A computer implemented server method for dynamically managing
2 a user software license, the method comprising:
3 receiving at least one request from a client to access at least one feature of
4 a software program, each request including identification
5 information concerning the user and a hardware configuration
6 identifier concerning a computer associated with the user;
7 responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored software license
8 information concerning the user, the stored software license
9 information corresponding to the received identification
10 information and including a stored hardware configuration
11 identifier concerning the computer associated with the user and a
12 stored hardware configuration identifier modification date;
13 comparing the received hardware configuration identifier to the stored
14 hardware configuration identifier, to determine whether the
15 received hardware configuration identifier is acceptably similar to
16 the stored hardware configuration identifier; and
17 returning software license information concerning the user to the client.

1 2. (Original) The server method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 responsive to the received hardware configuration identifier being
3 acceptably similar but not identical to the stored hardware
4 configuration identifier, comparing the stored hardware
5 configuration identifier modification date with a current date.

1 3. (Original) The server method of claim 2 further comprising:
2 responsive to the current date being sufficiently later than the stored
3 hardware configuration identifier modification date:
4 updating the stored software license information concerning the
5 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
6 identifier with the received hardware configuration
7 identifier;
8 updating the stored software license information concerning the
9 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
10 identifier modification date with the current date; and
11 returning software license information concerning the user
12 indicating that the user is licensed to run the software, the
13 software license information including the received
14 hardware configuration identifier and current date.

1 4-28 (Canceled).

1 29. (Original) A computer system for dynamically managing a user software
2 license, the computer system comprising:
3 a software portion for receiving at least one request from a client to access
4 at least one feature of a software program, each request including
5 identification information concerning the user and a hardware
6 configuration identifier concerning a computer associated with the
7 user;
8 a software portion for, responsive to receiving a request, retrieving stored
9 software license information concerning the user, the stored
10 software license information corresponding to the received
11 identification information and including a stored hardware
12 configuration identifier concerning the computer associated with
13 the user and a stored hardware configuration identifier
14 modification date;
15 a software portion for comparing the received hardware configuration
16 identifier to the stored hardware configuration identifier, to
17 determine whether the received hardware configuration identifier is
18 acceptably similar to the stored hardware configuration identifier;
19 and
20 a software portion for returning software license information concerning
21 the user to the client.

1 30. (Original) The computer system of claim 29 further comprising:
2 a software portion for, responsive to the received hardware configuration
3 identifier being acceptably similar but not identical to the stored
4 hardware configuration identifier, comparing the stored hardware
5 configuration identifier modification date with a current date.

1 31. (Original) The computer system of claim 30 further comprising:
2 a software portion for, responsive to the current date being sufficiently
3 later than the stored hardware configuration identifier modification
4 date:
5 updating the stored software license information concerning the
6 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
7 identifier with the received hardware configuration
8 identifier;
9 updating the stored software license information concerning the
10 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
11 identifier modification date with the current date; and
12 returning software license information concerning the user
13 indicating that the user is licensed to run the software, the
14 software license information including the received
15 hardware configuration identifier and current date.

1 32-42 (Canceled).

1 43. (Original) A computer program product for dynamically managing a user

2 software license, the computer program product comprising:

3 program code for starting a software program;

4 program code for creating a current hardware configuration identifier of

5 the computer associated with the user;

6 program code for retrieving stored software license information

7 concerning user, the license information including a hardware

8 configuration identifier of a computer associated with the user and

9 a hardware configuration identifier modification date;

10 program code for comparing the current hardware configuration identifier

11 to the stored hardware configuration identifier; and

12 a computer readable medium on which the program codes are stored.

1 44. (Original) The computer program product of claim 43 further comprising:

2 program code for, responsive to the current hardware configuration

3 identifier being acceptably similar but not identical to the stored

4 hardware configuration identifier, comparing the stored hardware

5 configuration identifier modification date with a current date.

1 45. (Original) The computer program product of claim 44 further comprising:
2 program code for, responsive to the current date being sufficiently later
3 than the stored hardware configuration identifier modification date:
4 updating the stored software license information concerning the
5 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
6 identifier with the current hardware configuration identifier;
7 updating the stored software license information concerning the
8 user by replacing the stored hardware configuration
9 identifier modification date with the current date; and
10 allowing the user to run the software program.

1 46 – 54 (Canceled).